

School of Nursing

Degrees Offered

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Introduction

The mission of the WVU School of Nursing is to improve the health of West Virginians, as well as our regional and global communities, through the delivery of excellent student-centered programs and evidence-based teaching, scholarship, and service. This mission is responsive to changing healthcare needs and emerging national and state changes in technology and healthcare delivery and is enhanced by a supportive and open environment. The faculty's educational effort is directed at providing high quality, student-centered programs of instruction at all levels which prepare superb professional nurses to meet basic healthcare needs; advance practiced nurses to address complex health needs; and enable doctorally-educated nurses to advance nursing knowledge through research, to assist in the formulation of policies to improve health care, and to serve as faculty in higher degree programs. Unique characteristics of the state mandates that the healthcare needs of rural populations and vulnerable groups be a major focus of education, research, and service, including faculty practice.

The School of Nursing offers undergraduate and graduate degrees and post-graduate certificates of study. The baccalaureate program (BSN) is available for high school graduates who aspire to a career in nursing (basic or traditional BSN program) and to registered nurses (RNs) and licensed practical nurses (LPNs) who are licensed graduates of associate degree or diploma nursing programs seeking to continue their career development (RN to BSN and LPN to BSN programs). In addition, an ABSN (fast track) program is available for the college graduate seeking a BSN in Morgantown and Bridgeport.

Accreditation

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing/master's degree program in nursing/Doctor of Nursing Practice program at West Virginia University are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.

Fees, Expenses, Housing, Transportation, and Immunization

Students enrolling at the Morgantown campus pay fees which are detailed on the Cost and Aid page of the West Virginia University Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://admissions.wvu.edu/cost-and-aid/>). Special fees and deposits are also required. Students enrolling at other sites pay the fees shown in the catalog for that site. Fees are subject to change without notice. Students' expenses vary according to the course of study and individual needs. Information concerning financial assistance, application forms, and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form may be obtained from the Professional - Health Sciences Center page of the Student Financial Services website (<https://financialaid.wvu.edu/students/professional-hsc/>) or by contacting the HSC Financial Aid Office, PO Box 9810, Morgantown, WV 26506-9810; telephone (304) 293-3706 (toll free) or 1-800-344-WVU1.

The University Housing and Residence Life Office, telephone (304) 293-4491, provides information concerning university-owned housing. The Student Life Office in E. Moore Hall, telephone (304) 293-5611, provides information concerning privately owned, off-campus housing.

Students are expected to provide their own transportation, equipment, and instruments for the clinical courses. Some clinical experiences require travel in a multi-county area.

Students entering the traditional BSN or ABSN program on the Morgantown campus are required to participate in the WVU Health Sciences Center Student Computer Program. A laptop computer will be issued to all students entering these programs. Please visit the Undergraduate Programs page of the West Virginia University School of Nursing website (<https://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/students/undergraduate-programs/bachelor-of-science/>) for more information.

Proof of specific immunizations is required for all health sciences students. Students in the BSN, ABSN, RN to BSN, LPN to BSN, MSN, DNP, and post graduate certificate nursing programs must undergo a criminal background check prior to clinical courses. Felony convictions, serious misdemeanors, illicit drug use, or positive drug screens may result in admission ineligibility or program dismissal.

Scholarships

The School of Nursing offers several scholarships. These scholarships are administered by the Health Science Center Financial Aid Office and require completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form in order to be considered for financial aid. Most School of Nursing scholarships are available only to students already admitted to the School of Nursing and are awarded each April for the following academic year. However, there are a limited number of scholarships for which students may apply before admission. Further information is provided on the Student Resources page of the West Virginia University School of Nursing website (<https://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/students/resources/>).

Additional Information

Visit the West Virginia University School of Nursing website (<https://nursing.hsc.wvu.edu/>). Call the WVU school of Nursing Office of Student Services at 1-866-WVUNURS or (304) 293-1386. Write to WVU School of Nursing at PO Box 9600, Morgantown, WV 26506-9600

ADMINISTRATION

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- Stacy Huber - EdD (West Virginia University)
Clinical Education Associate Professor

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ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH

- Ubolrat Piamjariyakul - PhD (University of Kansas)
Professor

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- Emily Barnes - DNP (West Virginia University)
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- Angel Smothers - DNP (West Virginia University)
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- Katherine Atassi - PhD (Medical University of South Carolina)
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Associate Professor

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Associate Professor

DIRECTOR OF NURSING SIMULATION

- Andrea Bailey - PhD (West Virginia University)
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DIRECTOR, CONTINUING EDUCATION

- Rebecca Smeltzer - DNP (Case Western Reserve University)
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FACULTY

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- Mary Jane Smith - PhD (University of New York)

ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

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- Susan Newfield - PhD (Texas Tech University)
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- Amy Ankrom - MSN (University of Pittsburgh)
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- Laurel Miner - PhD (Capella University)
- Stephanie Young - PhD (West Virginia University)

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- Patricia J. Maramba - DNP (West Virginia University)

- Elizabeth Minchau - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Tonya Thompson - DNP (Waynesburg University)

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- Kimberly Adams - MSN (Waynesburg University)
- Danielle Curran - DNP (Chatham University)
- Dana Friend - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Gina Greathouse - MSN (University of North Carolina - Charlotte)
- Amanda Kitzmiller - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Ann Hendrickson - DNP (University of South Alabama)
- Jessica Matthews - MSN (West Virginia University)
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- Amy Miner - MSN (Waynesburg University)
- Marian Reven - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Laura Vollmer - MSN (Chamberlain University)
- Amber Walker Ziese - MSN (Marshall University)

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- Kelly Lemon - MSN (Georgetown University)
- Amanda Nicola - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Paula Sexton - DNP (Waynesburg University)
- Kendall Tuttle - MSN (Waynesburg University)

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- Marian Longstreth - DNP (Waynesburg University)
- Diana McCarty - MSN (West Virginia University)
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- Katrina Pepin - MSN (Waynesburg University)
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- Nan Leslie - PhD (University of Pittsburgh)
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- Alvita Nathaniel - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Barbara Nunley - PhD (University of Kentucky)
- Aletha Rowlands - PhD (University of Virginia)
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- Theresa Cowan - DHEd (A.T. Still University of Osteopathic Medicine and Health Professions)
Charleston Division
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- Debra Harr - EdD (West Virginia University)
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- Barbara Kupchak - PhD (University of Texas)
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- C. Lynne Ostrow - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Kari Sand-Jecklin - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Elisabeth Shelton - PhD (Widener University)
- Patricia Simoni - EdD (West Virginia University)

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- Daniel DeFeo - MSN (West Virginia University)
- Suzanne Gross - PhD (University of Texas)
- Dorothy M. Johnson - EdD (West Virginia University)
- Susan Pinto - MSN (West Virginia University)

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- Peggy Lambert Fink - PhD (West Virginia University)

BECKLEY DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT PROFESSORS

- Linda Angus - EdD (Liberty University)
- Cynthia Clark - MSN (Chamberlain University)
- Mindy Harris - MSN (Marshall University)

BECKLEY DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS

- Kara Cales - MSN (Chamberlain University)
- Kelley Coleman - BSN (West Virginia University)
- Jennifer Gross - MSN (Marshall University)
- Patsy Stoots - MSN (Bluefield University)

BECKLEY DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION LECTURERS

- Tina Bias - MSN (Philadelphia University)
- Debra Crowder - MSN (Philadelphia University)
- Taylor Holland - BSN (West Virginia University)
- Michelle Huerta - BSN (Northern Colorado University)
- Kathy Talley - MA (Marshall University)

BRIDGEPORT DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Kimberly Derico - MSN (Marshall University)

BRIDGEPORT DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS

- Linda Griffith - BSN (West Virginia University)
- Tina Lucas - BSN (Alderson Broaddus College)

CHARLESTON DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

- Jarena Kelly - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Kelly Morton - DNP (Capella University)

CHARLESTON DIVISION - TEACHING ASSOCIATE PROFESSORS

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- Teresa Ritchie - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Crystal Sheaves - PhD (West Virginia University)
Director of Clinical Placements
- Melanie Whelan - PhD (West Virginia University)

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- Heather Dignan - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Matthew Hottle - PhD (West Virginia University)
- Diana Niland - PhD (West Virginia University)

KEYSER DIVISION - CLINICAL EDUCATION INSTRUCTORS

- Kasey Beckman-Sirk - DNP (Chamberlain College of Nursing)
- Mary Keister - MSN (Aspen University)
- Brittany Knox - BSN (Capella University)

KEYSER DIVISION - SENIOR LECTURER

- Krystal Abucevicz-Swick - DNP (West Virginia University)
- Mary Beth McCloud - PhD (Medical University of South Carolina)

Academic Standards and Graduation Requirements

PRE-NURSING PROGRESSION POLICY

Students admitted to the University as "Pre-Nursing" students must maintain good academic standing and a 3.0 GPA beginning with the first semester at WVU. If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, they will be placed on academic notice for one semester. If the student's GPA remains below 3.0 for a second semester, the student will be dismissed from "Pre-Nursing".

Student athletes or students involved in University-sponsored organizations who, as a part of their participation may be required to be absent from either classroom or clinical experiences, must provide course coordinators with potential dates of absence during the first week of class. Excessive absences may jeopardize student success in nursing courses.

Note: Keyser Campus (Potomac State) policies for general nursing (Pre-Nursing) are different. Please refer to the Potomac State catalog for details.

DIRECT ADMISSION FRESHMAN PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

Students admitted directly to nursing as freshman must fulfill direct admission academic progression requirements to maintain advanced standing as a direct admission student and enter the sophomore level nursing courses. If students do not meet the requirements in the freshman year, they will be moved to the Pre-Nursing major and will have the opportunity to enter the Pre-Nursing BSN program applicant pool for consideration for program re-entry and progression to the sophomore nursing courses.

Freshman year academic progression standards for direct admit students in the BSN program include:

- Maintaining good academic standing
- Completion of all prerequisite coursework with a C - or better prior to the end of the summer term of the freshman year
- Maintaining a 3.0 overall GPA or better at the end of the first semester (higher GPAs are recommended in preparation for the rigorous nursing curriculum)
- Achieving or maintaining a cumulative 3.5 GPA or better at the end of the second semester of the freshman year

TRADITIONAL BSN ACADEMIC STANDARDS & PROGRESSION POLICIES

From entry into sophomore nursing courses to program completion, students must fulfill the following academic requirements to maintain good academic standing.

1. GPA

- Students must maintain an overall college GPA of at least 3.0.
- Students who do not maintain an overall GPA of at least 3.0 will be placed on academic notice for two semesters. Students who do not raise their overall GPA to 3.0, after two semesters on academic notice, will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

2. Required course grades

- All courses used to earn the BSN degree must be completed with a minimum grade of C -.
- Students who earn a grade of D or F in more than two NSG courses used to earn the BSN degree will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.
- All courses used to earn the BSN degree in which students earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU must be repeated prior to the student's progression to the next semester in the nursing sequence. Nursing courses must be repeated in the next spring or fall semester that the course is offered. There is an exception to this individual standard regarding nursing electives; students who receive a W in a nursing elective are not required to repeat it.

3. Repeats

- Students who receive a D, F, W or WU in a course used to earn the BSN degree must repeat the course and earn a minimum grade of C -. Students may repeat a NSG course only once.
- Students who repeat a NSG course used to earn the BSN degree and earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

4. Readmission

- Students who have been dismissed from the BSN program are not eligible for readmission. See Undergraduate Readmission Policy.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for nursing courses using letter/numerical values is: A= 93-100, B = 85-92, C = 77-84, D = 70-76, F = 69 and below.

ABSN AND LPN TO BSN ACADEMIC STANDARDS & PROGRESSION POLICIES

From entry into sophomore nursing courses to program completion, students must fulfill the following academic requirements to maintain good academic standing.

1. GPA

- Students must maintain a Nursing GPA of at least 3.0. Nursing GPA includes only NSG courses completed while enrolled in the ABSN or LPN to BSN programs.
- Students who do not maintain a Nursing GPA of at least 3.0 will be placed on academic notice and issued a formal Student Success Plan.
- Students who do not participate in the requirements outlined in the Student Success Plan will be at risk for being dismissed from the WVU SON. Nursing GPAs can be obtained from the Director of Admissions and Enrollment.

2. Required course grades

- All courses used to earn the BSN degree must be completed with a minimum grade of C -.
- Students who earn a grade of D or F in more than two NSG courses used to earn the BSN degree will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.
- All courses used to earn the BSN degree in which students earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU must be repeated prior to the student's progression to the next semester in the nursing sequence. Nursing courses must be repeated in the next spring or fall semester that the course is offered. There is an exception to this individual standard regarding nursing electives; students who receive a W in a nursing elective are not required to repeat it.

3. Repeats

- Students who receive a D, F, W or WU in a course used to earn the BSN degree must repeat the course and earn a minimum grade of C -. Students may repeat a NSG course only once.
- Students who repeat a NSG course used to earn the BSN degree and earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

4. Readmission

- Students who have been dismissed from the ABSN or LPN to BSN programs are not eligible for readmission. See Undergraduate Readmission Policy.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for nursing courses using letter/numerical values is: A= 93-100, B = 85-92, C = 77-84, D = 70-76, F = 69 and below.

RN TO BSN ACADEMIC STANDARDS & PROGRESSION POLICIES

1. GPA

- Students must maintain a Nursing GPA of at least 2.5. Nursing GPA includes only NSG courses completed while enrolled in the RN to BSN program.
- Students who do not maintain a Nursing GPA of at least 2.5 will be placed on academic notice and issued a formal Student Success Plan.
- Students who do not participate in the requirements outlined in the Student Success Plan will be at risk for being dismissed from the WVU SON. Nursing GPAs can be obtained from the Director of Admissions and Enrollment.

2. Required course grades

- All courses used to earn the BSN degree must be completed with a minimum grade of C -.
- Students who earn a grade of D or F in more than two NSG courses used to earn the BSN degree will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

3. Repeats

- Students who receive a D, F, W or WU in a course used to earn the BSN degree must repeat the course and earn a minimum grade of C -. Students may repeat a NSG course only once.
- Students who repeat a course used to earn the BSN degree and earn a grade of D, F, W, or WU will be dismissed from the School of Nursing.

4. Readmission

- Students who have been dismissed from the RN to BSN program are not eligible for readmission to the same program. See Undergraduate Readmission Policy.

Grading Scale

The grading scale for nursing courses using letter/numerical values is: A= 93-100, B = 85-92, C = 77-84, D = 70-76, F = 69 and below.

UNDERGRADUATE READMISSION POLICY

Students who have been *dismissed* from any nursing program (WVU or otherwise) are ineligible for admission to any of the WVU SON undergraduate programs. However, students who have received degrees or additional credentialing following dismissal from a nursing program are eligible for admission to the ABSN, RN to BSN, or graduate programs provided that they meet all other admission requirements and based upon space available.

Students who have *withdrawn* from the WVU SON may be considered for readmission. Students may apply for readmission in accordance with the following guidelines and criteria, but must follow the standard admission procedures and meet all original admission requirements.

- Students previously enrolled in a WVU nursing program must complete all exit procedures and forms during the semester of withdrawal to be eligible for readmission.
- Readmission to a WVU undergraduate nursing program will be considered one time only.
- Students unable to complete the program within 7 years of the original admission date will be required to restart the program if readmitted.

Readmission is not guaranteed and is dependent upon space available, applicant qualifications, and academic discretion.

Accreditation

The School of Nursing has specialized accreditation through the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education.

The baccalaureate degree program in nursing, the master's degree program in nursing and the Doctor of Nursing Practice program at West Virginia University is accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, 655 K Street, NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20001, 202-887-6791.